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The WOOL SITUATION

TWS - 33

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In this issue:
The Cycle in Mill Consumption

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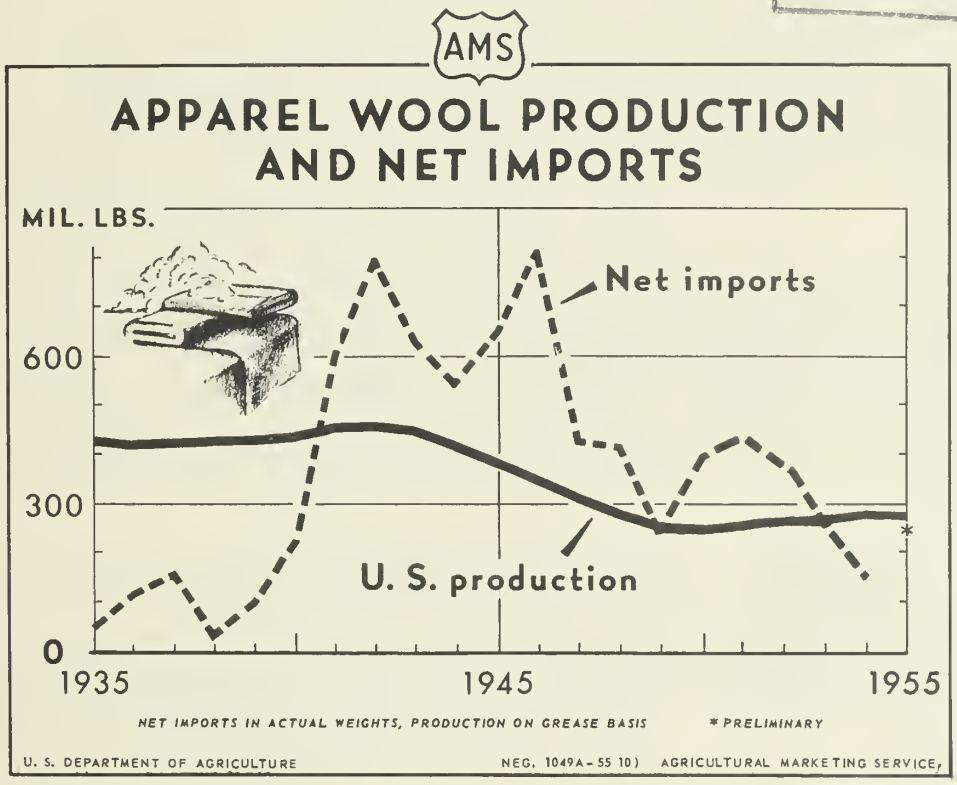


Combined output of shorn and pulled wool this year is expected to be nearly the same as last year with production of shorn wool estimated to be down about 2 percent. Production in 1956 is likely to be not greatly different from this year.

Early this year, both imports and mill use of apparel wool were above a year earlier, but in recent months they have been below a year earlier. Both declined substantially in 1954 with imports down almost two-fifths and consumption down a little more than one-fourth from the year before.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

AGRICULTURE - WASHINGTON

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part I - Prices

Item	Unit	1954 June	1954 July	1954 Aug.	1954 Sept.	1955 June	1955 July	1955 Aug.	1955 Sept.	Last data available as percent of a year earlier
Wool										
Average price received by farmers, grease basis	Cents per pound	55.3	54.7	53.8	52.9	44.7	44.0	42.8	40.3	76
Parity price		58.9	58.5	58.9	58.5	59.2	59.0	58.6	58.4	100
Farm as percent of parity		94	94	91	90	76	75	73	69	
Boston, clean basis 1/										
Domestic										
Graded territory										
Fine good French combing and staple	do.	176.7	175.6	176.2	177.1	143.5	142.5	138.5	132.5	75
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	157.5	157.5	157.5	157.5	133.5	132.5	129.7	122.5	78
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	135.0	135.0	135.0	135.0	117.5	116.2	112.9	110.0	81
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	122.2	122.3	122.6	122.5	109.5	109.5	107.9	102.5	84
Low 1/4 blood	do.	109.0	110.0	110.0	109.5	103.0	102.5	102.5	93.8	86
Common and braid	do.	99.5	100.0	100.0	100.0	97.5	97.5	93.5	92.5	92
Graded fleece										
Delaine	do.	181.4	181.0	181.0	180.3	145.0	143.8	138.5	132.5	73
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	do.	149.0	149.5	150.8	148.4	124.9	125.8	123.1	116.2	78
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	118.7	116.6	121.1	122.0	106.6	108.6	106.9	102.0	84
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	do.	112.8	113.5	114.4	114.0	101.9	102.2	100.5	97.5	86
Low 1/4 blood	do.	107.7	108.5	108.5	107.9	98.5	98.5	98.5	92.5	86
Common and braid	do.	97.5	97.5	97.5	97.5	97.5	97.5	93.5	87.5	90
Original bag Texas										
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	do.	185.0	185.0	185.0	184.0	146.7	145.0	138.5	136.2	74
Fine 8 months (1" and over)	do.	170.0	170.0	170.0	168.5	132.5	132.5	128.5	126.2	75
Fine fall (3/4" and over)	do.	160.0	160.0	160.0	158.0	123.5	122.5	118.5	116.2	74
Imported, excluding duty										
Australian										
64's, 70's warp and 1/2 warp	do.	177.5	177.5	177.5	177.5	152.5	152.5	144.5	132.5	75
64's, 70's good topmaking	do.	172.5	172.5	172.5	172.5	147.5	147.5	139.5	127.5	74
64's combing	do.	167.5	167.5	167.5	167.5	142.5	142.5	134.5	122.5	73
58's, 60's combing	do.	147.5	147.5	147.5	147.5	127.5	127.5	127.5	117.5	80
Montevideo super										
0's (58's, 60's)	do.	132.5	132.5	132.5	132.5	120.5	120.5	120.5	113.1	85
1's (56's)	do.	122.5	122.5	122.5	122.5	113.1	117.5	117.5	108.9	89
2's (50's)	do.	105.5	105.5	105.5	105.5	106.9	112.5	112.5	103.4	98
3's (46's, 48's)	do.	94.5	94.5	94.5	94.5	95.4	99.0	99.0	97.0	103
4's (44's)	do.	86.5	86.5	86.5	86.5	95.4	99.0	99.0	96.4	111
5's (40's)	do.	86.5	86.5	86.5	86.5	94.7	95.5	95.5	93.8	108
Other textile fibers										
Cotton, middling 15/16" 2/	do.	---	---	34.1	34.4	33.8	33.7	33.6	33.0	96
Man-made synthetic staple fiber										
Viscose, 1-1/2 denier 3/	do.	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	4/	4/	100
Acetate, 5 denier 3/	do.	34.0	34.0	34.0	34.0	37.0	37.0	4/	4/	109
Nylon, 3 denier 5/	do.	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	100
Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 5/	do.	160.0	160.0	160.0	160.0	160.0	160.0	160.0	160.0	100
Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 5/	do.	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	150.0	100
Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 5/	do.	140.0	140.0	140.0	140.0	140.0	140.0	140.0	140.0	100
Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 5/	do.	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	128.0	100
Vicara, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 denier 5/	do.	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100

1/ From Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market.
2/ Average of 14 markets.
3/ From Textile Organon.
4/ Not available.
5/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

THE WOOL SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board October 14, 1955

SUMMARY

Prospects are for a slightly larger world supply of wool during the 1955-56 season. Production is expected to be a little larger, and indications are that stocks are up slightly from a year ago. Increased capacity for producing man-made fiber is also in prospect.

Domestic production of wool next year is not likely to be greatly different from this year. Present indications as to sheep and lamb slaughter suggest little change in stock sheep on farms and ranches this year. Shorn wool production this year is about 2 percent lower than that of last year.

Mill use of both apparel and carpet wool in the United States next year probably will not differ greatly from this year. Mill use of apparel wool through August of this year was a little above the same months of last year, but the rate was below a year earlier during June-August. Mill consumption of carpet wool was up by a slightly larger percentage than that of apparel wool. The increases in mill use were reflected in larger imports. Mill use of other fiber by the woolen and worsted segments of the textile industry was also up from a year earlier and by a larger percentage than that of wool.

World consumption of wool during the first half of this year is estimated to have been slightly above a year earlier. Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States accounted for the increase. The wool textile industry also consumed more fiber other than wool. The increase was a little larger, both quantitatively and percentagewise, than that for wool.

Domestic producers will again sell their wool in the open market next year at prices reflecting world supply and demand conditions. It now appears likely that the average of prices received in the open market next year will not be greatly different from this year and will again be substantially below the national average incentive level. So far this season, the mid-month averages of prices received have ranged from a high of 48.7 cents at mid-April, the first month of the season, to a low of 40.3 cents at mid-September. The average was 53.9 cents for the 1954 season when a Government loan program was in effect.

As under the current support program, producers will be eligible for Government payments to be made after the close of the season. The payment per pound of shorn wool to the individual producer will be equivalent to the price he received in the open market times the percentage needed to bring the average return of all producers up to the incentive level. Support for pulled wool will again be effected through payments on lambs and yearlings sold for slaughter. With the incentive level for shorn wool for the 1956 marketing year at 62 cents per pound, grease basis,

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part II - Supplies and Mill Activity

Item	Unit	1954 May	1954 June	1954 July	1954 Aug.	1955 May	1955 June	1955 July	1955 Aug. 1/	Last data available as percent of a year earlier
Imports for consumption, clean content	Million pounds									
Dutiable 2/	do.	9.7	11.7	8.4	8.7	11.2	9.5	8.8		105
60's and finer	do.	4.5	5.9	4.6	4.6	7.1	4.9	5.4		117
56's - 60's	do.	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.8	1.1		73
50's - 56's	do.	1.4	1.1	.8	.9	.8	1.1	.7		88
44's - 50's	do.	.4	.5	.3	.4	.3	.3	.2		67
40's - 44's	do.	.6	.6	.4	.3	.3	.5	.3		75
Not finer than 40's	do.	1.1	1.6	.7	.8	.9	.7	.8		114
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	.1	.2	.1	.2	.3	.2	.3		300
Duty-free	do.	9.4	9.2	10.0	9.1	11.9	12.7	13.4		134
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	5.0	5.4	5.9	5.1	6.5	7.2	8.2		139
Not finer than 40's	do.	4.4	3.8	4.1	4.0	5.4	5.5	5.2		127
Accumulated since January 1										
Dutiable 2/	do.	45.2	56.9	65.2	73.9	53.8	63.3	72.1		111
60's and finer	do.	25.3	31.2	35.8	40.5	32.3	37.2	42.7		119
56's - 60's	do.	5.9	7.6	9.0	10.5	7.4	9.1	10.2		113
50's - 56's	do.	5.7	6.9	7.7	8.6	4.6	5.7	6.4		83
44's - 50's	do.	1.7	2.3	2.6	2.9	1.6	1.9	2.1		81
40's - 44's	do.	1.8	2.3	2.7	3.0	2.1	2.6	2.9		107
Not finer than 40's	do.	3.9	5.5	6.2	7.0	4.6	5.3	6.1		98
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	.8	1.0	1.1	1.3	.9	1.1	1.4		127
Duty-free	do.	42.9	52.1	62.1	71.2	54.1	66.8	80.2		129
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	20.3	25.6	31.5	36.6	30.8	38.0	46.2		147
Not finer than 40's	do.	22.6	26.5	30.6	34.6	23.3	28.8	34.0		111
Imports for consumption, actual weight										
Dutiable	do.	15.2	17.8	12.9	13.1	16.9	13.9	13.0		101
Duty-free	do.	13.5	13.1	14.4	12.6	16.4	17.4	18.0		125
Mill consumption, scoured basis 3/										
Per week, during month 4/										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	1,000 pounds	5,851	5,570	5,271	5,926	5,874	5,408	5,171	5,798	98
60's and finer	do.	3,108	2,961	2,856	3,172	3,152	2,892	2,802	2,949	93
50's up to 60's	do.	1,952	1,846	1,744	2,016	1,972	1,921	1,824	2,178	108
48's and coarser	do.	791	763	671	738	750	595	545	671	91
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	2,093	1,793	1,370	2,296	2,584	2,252	1,659	2,595	113
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	Million pounds	108.1	135.9	157.0	180.7	117.4	144.5	165.1	188.3	104
60's and finer	do.	56.7	71.5	82.9	95.6	63.3	77.8	89.0	100.8	105
50's up to 60's	do.	36.0	45.3	52.2	60.3	40.2	49.8	57.1	65.8	109
48's and coarser	do.	15.4	19.1	21.9	24.8	13.9	16.9	19.0	21.7	88
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	49.8	58.7	64.2	73.4	53.4	64.6	71.3	81.7	111
Woven wool fabric production 5/	Million linear									
Accumulated since January 1	yards									
Apparel fabrics			118.3				149.6			126
Government orders	do.		1.5				3.9			260
Men's and boys' wear	do.		56.5				73.6			130
Women's and children's wear	do.		60.3				72.1			120
Non-apparel fabrics	do.		13.8				8.2			59
Blanketing	do.		7.8				5.8			74
Other non-apparel fabrics	do.		6.0				2.4			40
Total woven fabrics	do.		132.1				157.8			119

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Includes carbonized wool which is not reported by grade.
3/ On woolen and worsted systems; excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems and in the manufacture of felts, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products.
4/ Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks each quarter.
5/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

the same as for the current marketing year, the average return (market price plus payment) per pound to the producer should be about the same as this year--in the neighborhood of 62 cents.

The decline in wool prices in domestic markets reflects the general decline of wool prices in world markets. The decline began at about the time of the opening of the 1954-55 selling season in the British Dominions. Prices declined in the first week of September when the 1955-56 selling season opened, but have been relatively stable over the last month. The net decline from mid-1954 ranges from 25 to 30 percent for fine wools and from 15 to 20 percent for crossbreds. The lower wool prices reflect larger world supplies of both wool and competitive fibers. Some easing of demand for wool, associated in part with an increase in the use of man-made fiber in place of wool, also has been a factor.

Survey of Recent Developments

Prices in Foreign Markets Somewhat Below A Year Ago

During the opening week (the first week in September) of the 1955-56 auction season, prices at the British Dominion sales declined to levels between 10 and 15 percent below the closing 1954-55 prices of last June. But prices have been relatively stable since.

As of early October prices of fine wools were between 15 and 20 percen below a year earlier. They were between 25 and 30 percent below the levels prevailing prior to the beginning of the decline in mid-1954. Prices of crossbreds ranged between 15 and 20 percent below both a year earlier and June 1954.

Prices at the London auctions have followed rather closely the pattern established in the Dominions (table 1).

Boston Quotations Reflect Trends Abroad

Early in October, quotations for Australian fine wools at Boston ranged between 20 and 30 percent below both a year earlier and the levels of June 1954, shortly before the beginning of the sharp decline in world markets.

Quotations for domestic descriptions are also substantially below both a year earlier and June 1954 (table 2). As of early October, quotations for fine wools ranged from 20 to 25 percent below early October 1954 and between 25 and 30 percent below June 1954. In general, declines for the coarse wools were not nearly as great as those for the fine wools. Quotations for quarterblood and common and braid wools were between 5 and 15 percent below both a year earlier and June 1954.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part I - Prices

Item	Unit	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955 1/
Wool	Cents									
Average price received by farmers, grease basis	per pound	42.0	49.2	49.4	62.1	97.0	54.1	54.9	53.9	44-46
Boston, clean basis 2/										
Domestic										
Graded territory										
Fine good French combing and staple	do.	124.2	164.6	166.4	199.2	270.5	165.3	173.0	170.6	137.5-147.5
½ blood good French combing and staple	do.	118.8	145.5	147.0	178.2	246.0	147.6	152.1	152.9	127.5-137.5
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	107.0	107.6	112.8	151.0	215.2	128.7	132.3	130.9	112.5-122.5
¼ blood good French combing and staple	do.	100.6	99.3	100.1	134.3	202.3	120.4	121.7	117.4	105.0-112.5
Low ¼ blood	do.	89.2	88.5	92.5	116.2	183.7	103.5	102.7	104.5	97.5-102.5
Common and braid	do.	82.2	80.7	87.5	110.9	176.5	98.4	97.9	97.5	92.5- 97.5
Graded fleece										
Delaine	do.	128.1	166.2	169.3	200.8	270.0	164.7	176.9	176.2	142.5-152.5
½ blood good French combing and staple	do.	117.2	131.1	146.6	170.5	233.9	142.7	146.8	144.4	120.0-130.0
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	do.	103.5	101.7	104.3	140.8	205.4	117.5	120.0	117.1	105.0-110.0
¼ blood good French combing and staple	do.	98.4	95.7	97.0	131.7	191.7	109.7	112.9	110.6	100.0-105.0
Low ¼ blood	do.	83.2	76.0	76.0	108.0	174.0	99.1	105.0	103.7	95.0-100.0
Common and braid	do.	78.2	71.0	71.0	102.8	167.5	93.3	95.5	96.3	90.0- 95.0
Original bag Texas										
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	do.	122.0	164.9	165.7	198.4	267.5	166.5	180.8	177.7	140.0-150.0
Fine 8 months (1" and over)	do.	106.1	123.3	133.6	166.1	226.0	148.6	164.8	162.8	127.5-137.5
Fine fall (⅞" and over)	do.	101.1	108.3	122.9	148.7	193.3	137.0	149.1	152.7	117.5-127.5
Imported, excluding duty										
Australian										
64's, 70's warp and ½ warp	do.	110.7	168.5	183.4	205.0	269.0	155.4	181.5	177.1	140.0-150.0
64's, 70's good topmaking	do.	102.9	159.9	170.3	198.7	259.1	150.0	176.7	172.1	135.0-145.0
64's combing	do.	98.4	154.6	164.4	192.0	250.0	144.6	171.5	165.9	130.0-140.0
58's, 60's combing	do.	84.7	138.2	138.6	168.6	234.2	133.0	147.4	144.3	120.0-130.0
Montevideo super										
0's (58's, 60's)	do.	85.8	123.4	120.8	155.4	253.0	125.2	125.0	130.0	112.5-117.5
1's (56's)	do.	77.6	108.8	103.0	136.4	225.4	111.8	107.2	119.4	107.5-112.5
2's (50's)	do.	72.1	93.7	88.3	119.9	199.8	100.3	99.9	105.4	102.5-107.5
3's (46's, 48's)	do.	57.0	71.8	71.5	104.2	167.1	81.9	89.5	94.5	92.5- 97.5
4's (44's)	do.	54.8	62.4	63.4	98.1	157.1	77.3	86.2	87.0	90.0- 95.0
5's (40's)	do.	49.8	57.2	58.9	97.6	153.2	76.2	86.2	87.0	90.0- 95.0
Other textile fibers										
Man-made synthetic staple fiber										
Viscose, 1½ denier 3/	do.	31.9	36.4	35.8	36.1	40.0	39.5	35.0	34.0	
Acetate, 5 denier 3/	do.	47.9	48.0	43.0	42.5	48.0	42.4	35.6	34.0	
Nylon, 3 denier 4/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	151.7
Dacron, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 4/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	161.1
Orlon, 3, 4.5, and 6 denier 4/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	190.0	152.5	
Acrilan, 3 and 5 denier 4/	do.	---	---	---	---	---	---	185.0	140.0	
Dynel, 2, 3, 6, 12, and 24 denier 4/	do.	---	---	---	125.0	125.0	127.3	128.0	128.0	
Vicara, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 denier 4/	do.	---	---	86.5	83.2	99.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	

1/ Indications as of October 1.
2/ From Weekly Review of the Boston Wool Market.
3/ From Textile Organon.
4/ From Modern Textile Magazine.

ANNUAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY
Part II - Supplies and Mill Activity

Item	Unit	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955 1/
Production	Million pounds									
As reported	do.	308.0	278.4	248.5	247.8	251.4	266.0	272.6	276.1	270-275
Shorn	do.	251.4	231.8	212.9	215.4	225.5	232.4	230.4	232.6	228.0
Pulled	do.	56.6	46.6	35.6	32.4	25.9	33.6	42.2	43.5	---
Approximate clean equivalent 2/	do.	153.0	137.0	120.4	119.1	118.6	127.4	133.0	135.0	133-136
Shorn	do.	110.6	102.0	93.7	94.8	99.2	102.2	101.4	102.4	100.3
Pulled	do.	42.4	35.0	26.7	24.3	19.4	25.2	31.6	32.6	---
Reported stocks, April 1, scoured basis 3/										
Apparel wool	do.	404.2	346.5	199.3	143.2	130.2	130.8	163.1	149.7	159.6
Domestic	do.	244.6	216.2	124.4	72.4	35.6	55.7	98.8	104.4	114.7
Foreign	do.	159.6	130.3	74.9	70.8	94.6	75.1	64.3	45.3	44.9
Carpet wool	do.	93.5	82.7	62.0	54.5	45.0	34.0	41.9	32.0	29.2
Imports for consumption, clean content										
Dutiable 4/	do.	259.3	246.2	154.9	250.1	272.0	248.4	165.7	104.0	100-125
Finer than 56's	do.	182.8	182.9	120.5	187.2	208.7	162.0	102.6	71.4	
44's-56's	do.	36.3	35.8	18.3	35.6	37.3	47.4	28.8	16.0	
40's-44's	do.	14.2	10.4	6.6	11.4	6.5	17.1	9.8	5.5	
Not finer than 40's	do.	24.3	16.3	8.8	13.7	16.3	18.1	21.7	9.1	
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	1.0	.4	.5	1.7	1.8	3.2	2.7	1.7	
Duty-free	do.	140.0	232.8	117.6	216.7	89.2	118.6	128.6	102.1	115-145
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	77.2	112.0	61.1	115.1	61.6	75.5	69.1	55.6	
Not finer than 40's	do.	62.8	120.8	56.5	101.6	27.6	43.1	59.5	46.5	
Imports for consumption, actual weight										
Dutiable 4/	do.	438.8	416.3	262.3	402.0	430.6	379.7	260.8	159.6	150-190
Duty-free	do.	202.3	341.3	172.5	315.1	126.1	165.3	188.0	144.8	160-200
Mill consumption, scoured basis 5/										
Apparel (domestic and duty-paid foreign)	do.	525.9	485.2	339.0	436.9	382.1	346.8	358.0	266.3	260-290
60's and finer	do.	327.2	303.4	185.1	246.0	223.9	177.4	182.1	139.5	
50's up to 60's	do.	134.6	130.7	120.1	150.9	125.1	124.2	128.6	91.9	
48's and coarser	do.	64.1	51.1	33.8	40.0	33.1	45.2	47.3	34.9	
Carpet (duty-free foreign)	do.	172.3	207.9	161.4	197.9	102.0	119.6	135.9	114.5	115-135
Woven wool fabric production 6/										
Apparel fabrics	do.	448.4	434.3	351.2	358.9	316.4	308.0	290.7	255.3	
Government orders	do.	10.1	11.1	17.2	10.1	103.9	63.7	19.6	3.1	
Men's and boys' wear	do.	222.6	197.1	142.1	174.5	105.1	108.7	130.6	118.6	
Women's and children's wear	do.	179.1	194.0	165.4	174.3	107.4	135.6	140.5	133.6	
Kind unspecified	do.	36.6	32.1	26.5	---	---	---	---	---	
Non-apparel fabrics	do.	67.4	63.3	63.2	69.6	59.0	43.4	47.2	24.2	
Blanketing	do.	29.2	21.4	22.5	19.1	31.4	24.3	28.6	13.3	
Other non-apparel fabrics	do.	38.2	41.9	40.7	50.5	27.6	19.1	18.6	10.9	
Total woven fabrics	do.	515.8	497.6	414.4	428.5	375.4	351.4	337.9	279.5	

1/ Indications as of October 1. 2/ Production as reported converted on basis of 44 percent yield for shorn wool and 75 percent yield for pulled wool. 3/ Includes wool held on consignment, wool in process of manufacture up to the carding operation and wool held in bond, but excludes wool held by the Commodity Credit Corporation for the Department of Defense and wool held by or for the account of growers. 4/ Includes a small quantity of carbonized wool which was not reported by class and grade, but excludes wool entered free as an act of international courtesy. 5/ All duty-free wools are reported as carpet wool and all dutiable wools are reported as apparel wool. Consumption on the woolen and worsted systems only. Beginning January 1942, wool was considered as consumed (1) on the woolen system when laid in mixes and (2) on the worsted system when entering scouring bowls; beginning August 1948, consumption on the worsted system is taken as the sum of top and noil production. 6/ Prior to 1950, 25 percent or more wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight; principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight for 1950 and later years.

Stock, import, consumption, and fabric production data compiled from reports of U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 1.- Price per pound of fleece wools at the London auctions, clean basis (Bradford yield), 1953-55

Week ended 1/	Good medium fleeces		Fine crossbred fleeces		Crossbred fleeces	
	64's-70's	58's-60's	56's	50's	48's	46's
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1953						
January 18	185.2	143.0	107.8	89.1	86.7	84.4
January 23	183.0	134.9	93.9	80.9	77.4	75.1
February 20	190.3	141.0	101.0	85.7	82.2	78.7
March 20	193.5	146.6	107.9	89.1	86.8	84.4
March 27	197.1	147.8	107.9	93.8	90.3	89.1
May 8	202.7	152.3	110.2	93.8	90.2	89.1
May 15	211.1	157.2	110.2	93.8	90.3	89.1
July 10	201.8	150.2	103.2	89.2	85.6	83.3
July 25	197.1	150.2	106.8	92.7	88.0	85.7
September 18	188.9	143.4	110.8	100.3	93.3	89.8
October 2	192.5	149.3	114.3	105.0	95.7	93.3
November 27	187.5	146.5	109.0	98.4	92.6	91.4
December 11	187.4	146.4	105.4	94.9	90.2	89.0
1954						
January 22	183.9	146.5	105.4	87.9	83.2	82.0
January 29	183.9	142.9	105.4	89.0	83.2	83.2
February 26	175.9	144.2	109.0	92.6	86.8	84.4
March 5	173.5	140.7	110.2	92.6	89.1	86.8
April 2	179.5	146.7	116.2	99.7	96.2	93.9
April 9	179.6	146.7	116.2	98.6	95.1	92.7
May 14	182.1	152.7	119.8	102.2	97.5	95.1
May 21	182.1	152.7	119.8	103.4	98.7	96.3
July 9	173.8	152.6	119.8	101.0	96.3	93.9
July 16	173.8	152.6	119.8	102.1	97.4	95.1
September 10	164.9	140.3	---	98.2	91.2	90.0
September 17	172.7	144.7	---	100.4	94.5	92.2
November 26	155.7	122.0	---	87.2	83.7	81.3
December 10	156.9	119.7	104.6	90.6	86.0	83.7
1955						
January 14	150.9	119.5	104.4	89.4	84.7	83.6
January 21	155.5	120.7	106.8	91.7	87.0	84.7
February 18	155.3	121.7	110.1	93.9	89.3	88.1
February 25	155.6	124.3	110.3	95.2	91.8	90.6
March 25	153.6	124.5	108.2	94.3	90.8	89.6
April 1	149.0	124.5	108.2	94.3	90.8	89.6
May 13	149.2	124.7	110.7	95.6	90.9	89.7
May 20	148.8	124.4	110.4	96.5	91.8	90.7
July 15	141.5	116.0	---	92.8	88.1	87.0
July 22	133.4	113.6	---	91.6	87.0	85.8
September 9	127.6	109.1	98.6	83.5	81.2	78.9
September 22	130.0	109.1	---	84.7	82.4	80.1

1/ Opening and closing weeks for each series.

Compiled from Kreglinger and Fernau market reports. Prices converted from pence to cents at current rates of exchange.

Table 2.- Prices of domestic shorn wool at Boston, clean basis, for week ended October 7, 1955 with comparisons

Classification	Average 1947-49	1954 week ended October 8	1955 week ended July 29	1955 week ended October 7	Percent change week ended October 7 from: Average 1947-49	October 8, 1954	July 29, 1955
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent	Percent
Graded shorn							
Territory and Texas							
Fine, good French combing and staple	151.7	172.5	142.5	132.5	-12.7	-23.2	- 7.0
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	137.1	157.5	132.5	122.5	-10.6	-22.2	- 7.5
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	109.1	135.0	114.5	107.5	- 1.5	-20.4	- 6.1
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	100.0	122.5	109.5	102.5	+ 2.5	-16.3	- 6.4
Low 1/4 blood	89.9	107.5	102.5	92.5	+ 2.9	-14.0	- 9.8
Common and braid	83.5	100.0	97.5	92.5	+10.8	- 7.5	- 5.1
Fleece							
Fine, Delaine	154.5	177.5	142.5	132.5	-14.2	-25.4	- 7.0
1/2 blood, good French combing and staple	131.6	147.0	125.5	112.5	-14.5	-23.5	-10.4
3/8 blood, good French combing and staple	103.2	122.0	107.5	101.0	- 2.1	-17.2	- 6.0
1/4 blood, good French combing and staple	97.0	114.0	100.5	97.5	+ .5	-14.5	- 3.0
Low 1/4 blood	78.4	107.5	98.5	92.5	+18.0	-14.0	- 6.1
Common and braid	73.4	97.5	97.5	87.5	+19.2	-10.3	-10.3
Original bag shorn							
Fine Texas							
Good French combing and staple	150.9	177.5	142.5	132.5	-12.2	-25.4	- 7.0
Eight months (1 inch and over)	121.0	162.5	132.5	122.5	+ 1.2	-24.6	- 7.5
Fall (3/4 inch and over)	110.8	150.0	122.5	112.5	+ 1.5	-25.0	- 8.2

Compiled from market reports of Agricultural Marketing Service.

Prices Received by Growers Continue to Decline

The mid-month average of prices received by growers for shorn wool declined from 55.3 cents per pound, grease basis, in June 1954 to 40.3 cents last month, a decline of about 27 percent. The decline abroad was not fully reflected in domestic markets until after the opening of the current marketing season when the payments program went into effect. The loan program supported prices in domestic markets through the 1954 season.

Prices received by growers in the open market since the beginning of the season have averaged below last year. Present indications are that for the season they will average substantially below the average of 53.9 cents of 1954. At the end of the season growers will be eligible for Government payments with the payment per pound to the individual producer equivalent to the average price he received times the percentage needed to bring the average return of all producers up to the incentive level of 62 cents.

National Average Incentive Level for 1956 Marketing Year to Be 62 Cents

The incentive level for shorn wool for the 1956 marketing year beginning April 1, 1956, has been established at 62 cents per pound, grease basis, to the producer. It is the same as that in effect for the 1955 marketing year and is equivalent to approximately 106 percent of the August 15, 1955, parity price for wool. The incentive price was established under the provisions of the National Wool Act of 1954, which directs the Secretary of Agriculture to support the price of shorn wool at such a level, not to exceed 110 percent of parity, as he determines to be necessary to encourage an annual production of approximately 300 million pounds of shorn wool.

As under the 1955 program, producers' returns from shorn wool will be supported by means of payments based on the percentage needed to bring the average return per pound up to the national average incentive level. Support for pulled wool again will be effected through payments on lambs and yearlings sold for slaughter.

CCC Wools to Be Marketed on Competitive Bid Basis

Effective the first of next month, wools owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation will be marketed on a competitive bid basis. Monthly sales for domestic use will be limited to a quantity not in excess of 1/24 of the inventory on hand as of November 1, 1955.

The monthly limitation will not apply to sales made at 103 percent of 1954 loan rates plus selling commission or to wool sold or bartered for export. As of September 30, CCC held about 149 million pounds, actual weight.

World Production Continues to Increase

The first Foreign Agricultural Service estimate of world production in 1955 was released in July and was discussed in the last issue of this publication. In that release, world production was estimated at about 2 percent above 1954 (table 3). Increases were indicated for Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, Soviet Union, and some of the countries of the Middle East. Changes elsewhere, if any, were expected to be small.

Table 3.- Production of wool in specified countries, grease basis, 1948-55

Country	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954 1/	1955 1/
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Argentina	419.0	415.0	430.0	420.0	407.0	400.0	365.0	365.0
Australia	1,031.0	1,110.0	1,117.5	1,080.0	1,281.1	1,246.0	1,280.0	1,315.0
New Zealand	367.0	390.0	390.0	406.7	418.0	425.0	450.0	460.0
Union of South Africa	219.0	217.5	227.5	240.0	256.8	264.6	280.0	290.0
Uruguay	144.0	163.3	185.0	187.4	189.8	202.5	198.4	200.0
Other countries	1,590.0	1,594.2	1,650.0	1,715.9	1,797.3	1,811.9	1,816.6	1,845.0
Estimated world total	3,770.0	3,890.0	4,000.0	4,050.0	4,350.0	4,350.0	4,390.0	4,475.0

1/ Preliminary.
Compiled from reports of the Foreign Agricultural Service.

Production of Man-made Fiber Continues to Increase

Preliminary and somewhat fragmentary information for the first half of this year indicates that world production of rayon and acetate fiber was about 12 percent higher than early 1954. Production of non-cellulosic fiber in the United States, which last year accounted for about three-fourths of the world total, was up 39 percent over early 1954.

The Textile Economics Bureau estimates that world production of man-made fiber was 4,983 million pounds last year, 421 million pounds or 9 percent above 1953 (table 4). The United States accounted for 1,432 million pounds or 29 percent of world production. Total production consisted of 4,507 million pounds of rayon and acetate and 476 million pounds of non-cellulosic fiber.

Of particular interest to those concerned with wool is the fact that the bulk of the increase between 1953 and 1954 was in output of stable fiber. World production of rayon and acetate staple in 1954 exceeded that of 1953 by 372 million pounds or 18 percent. United States output of non-cellulosic staple increased 21 percent from 53 million pounds to 64 million pounds. During the first half of 1955 world output of rayon and acetate staple was up 9 percent from early 1954. United States production of non-cellulosic staple increased 93 percent from 27 to 52 million pounds.

Table 4.- Production and planned production capacity of manmade fiber

	Production				Capacity as of December 1956 1/
	1953	1954	January-June 1954	January-June 1955	
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
United States					
Rayon and acetate					
Yarn	886.9	706.8	343.9	428.8	1,127.0
Staple	310.0	378.9	171.8	191.4	750.0
Total	1,196.9	1,085.7	515.7	620.2	1,877.0
Non-cellulosic					
Yarn	248.8	282.3	133.6	170.8	---
Staple	53.5	63.8	26.8	51.9	---
Total	302.3	346.1	160.4	222.7	585.0
World					
Rayon and acetate					
Yarn	2,085.9	2,045.4	---	---	2,923.1
Staple	2,089.1	2,461.1	---	---	3,630.1
Total	4,175.0	4,506.5	---	---	6,553.2
Non-cellulosic 2/					
Yarn	---	---	---	---	---
Staple	---	---	---	---	---
Total	387.1	476.0	---	---	900.6

1/ Annual rate. 2/ Textile glass fiber data are included for the United States but are excluded for other countries.

Compiled from Textile Organon.

World production capacity planned for late 1956 is substantially above the estimated 1954 output. The increase for all manmade fiber is equivalent to about 2.5 billion pounds or about 50 percent above production in 1954. Capacity for rayon and acetate is up 2,047 million pounds, or 45 percent, and that for the non-cellulosics up 425 million pounds, or 89 percent.

1954-55 Exports from Southern Hemisphere about Same as in 1953-54

Present indications are that total exports of wool from the 5 main exporting countries of the Southern Hemisphere - Argentina, Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, and Uruguay - during 1954-55 were about the same as for the 1953-54 season.

The total for the 3 British Dominions, where the season ends June 30, was 1,701 million pounds, actual weight, compared with 1,687 million in 1953-54 (table 5). It is estimated that the total carryover in these countries at the end of the season was below that at the end of 1953-54 and very small.

Total exports from the 2 South American countries, where the season ends September 30, came to 238 million pounds, actual weight, during the first 9 months of the season. The comparable figure for 1953-54 was 235 million pounds.

Changes from 1953-54 varied considerably among the 5 countries. Increases of 9 percent, 22 percent, and 5 percent, respectively, were noted for the Union of South Africa, Argentina and New Zealand. Exports from Australia were down about 2 percent. Exports from Uruguay during October-July were down about 34 percent from a year earlier. The reduced exports from Uruguay reflect the reluctance of growers to sell their wool at prices appreciably lower than a year earlier. A Uruguayan Government decree of September 15 authorized premium payments to stimulate wool exports. Through September 30, the premium amounted to 21 centisimos (about 10 U. S. cents) for each dollar's worth of wool exported. Payments of 14 centisimos for exports during October-December 1955 and of 7 centisimos for January-March 1956 were authorized. The premiums are subject to reduction if world wool prices increase more than 15 percent.

Table 5.- Exports of wool, actual weight, from Southern Hemisphere surplus-producing countries, 1952-53, 1953-54, and 1954-55 seasons 1/

Exporting country	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Australia	1,066	1,071	1,045
New Zealand	383	387	406
Union of South Africa	217	229	250
Argentina 2/	418	144	175
Uruguay 3/	202	105	69

1/ Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Union of South Africa and season beginning October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay.
2/ Through June. 3/ Through July.
Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

With increased production indicated for these countries, the quantity available for export in 1955-56 is likely to be larger than in 1954-55.

Imports of Dutiable Wool A Little Above Last Year

Imports of dutiable wools for consumption during January-July totaled 109 million pounds, actual weight, or 72 million pounds, clean content. The clean content total was about 7 million pounds or 11 percent above a year earlier. However, imports during June-July were about 10 percent below those of the same months of 1954. The higher imports during the early months of this year reflected the higher rate of mill consumption. In January-July last year, imports were 44 percent below the same period of 1953.

Table 6.- Percentage distribution of United States imports of wool, by country of origin, January-June 1951-55

Country	Duty-free					Dutiable					Total				
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Australia	0.1	1/	0.1	1/	0.5	37.7	46.6	27.0	40.4	44.0	26.9	32.9	16.1	21.1	21.7
New Zealand	2.8	23.0	12.2	11.8	6.6	6.4	22.4	11.6	14.5	12.9	5.4	22.6	11.9	13.2	9.6
Union of South Africa	.5	.2	.4	1.4	.9	8.9	13.0	6.4	15.1	17.2	6.5	9.2	4.0	8.5	8.9
Argentina	30.5	14.1	45.9	47.8	46.2	12.1	6.4	31.7	15.4	11.9	17.4	8.7	37.5	30.9	29.5
Uruguay	.2	.1	.1	---	---	28.8	7.2	19.3	10.2	10.9	20.5	5.1	11.5	5.3	5.3
Other Countries	65.9	62.6	41.3	39.0	45.8	6.1	4.4	4.0	4.4	3.1	23.3	21.5	19.0	21.0	25.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

1/ Less than 0.05 percent.

Compiled from reports of U. S. Department of Commerce.

The three British Dominions accounted for 40 percent of the total during the first half of this year compared with 43 percent last year (table 6). The proportion of South American wools in the total was 35 percent. Last year it was 36 percent.

Imports of Duty-free Wool Up Substantially from Last Year

In line with the higher rate of mill use of carpet wool, imports of duty-free wools through July were up almost one-fourth from the same months of 1954. The total through July came to 110 million pounds, actual weight, or 80 million pounds, clean content. The increase in imports was somewhat larger than the increase in reported mill use.

South American wools accounted for about 46 percent of total imports of duty-free wools early this year (table 6). The proportion last year was 48 percent.

World Consumption Up a Little From Early Last Year

World consumption of wool during the second quarter of this year is estimated by the Commonwealth Economic Committee to have been about the same as during the previous quarter but about 2 percent above a year earlier. At the same time, however, the use of other materials, including man-made fiber, by the wool textile industry increased 10 percent.

The total for the first half of the year is estimated to have been about 3 percent above January-June 1954. The higher total reflects increases in Germany, United Kingdom, and the United States. Consumption of other materials was up 8 percent, with Germany and the United States accounting for a large part of the rise. Of the 11 countries included in the survey, only Italy indicated a decline in the use of such materials.

Table 7.- Estimated world production and consumption of wool, clean basis, 1948-56

Item	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Production 1/	2,135	2,185	2,253	2,329	2,354	2,526	2,540	2/2,575	3/2,625
Consumption	2,574	2,449	2,681	2,277	2,352	2,627	2,517		

1/ Production during the season beginning July 1 of the previous calendar year. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ Forecast.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

Table 8.- Weekly rate of consumption of apparel and carpet wool on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis, United States, by months, 1950-55

Classification	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
1950												
Apparel	8,006	8,837	8,518	7,943	8,268	8,084	7,370	9,901	9,015	9,671	7,871	7,393
Carpet	3,974	3,977	3,989	4,208	4,097	3,725	2,448	3,989	3,710	4,223	3,712	3,638
Total	11,980	12,814	12,507	12,151	12,365	11,809	9,818	13,890	12,725	13,894	11,583	11,031
1951												
Apparel	8,192	7,496	7,020	8,754	8,609	8,541	6,282	7,320	6,912	6,360	6,368	6,300
Carpet	3,416	3,410	3,268	2,507	1,807	1,622	413	1,040	1,069	1,556	1,663	1,761
Total	11,608	10,906	10,288	11,261	10,416	10,163	6,695	8,360	7,981	7,916	8,031	8,061
1952												
Apparel	5,904	6,218	5,971	5,876	6,277	6,779	6,335	7,621	7,784	7,656	7,120	6,725
Carpet	2,261	2,513	2,385	2,265	2,033	1,403	1,289	2,305	2,730	2,648	2,824	3,029
Total	8,165	8,731	8,356	8,141	8,310	8,182	7,624	9,926	10,514	10,304	9,944	9,754
1953												
Apparel	7,033	7,599	7,704	7,472	8,075	8,034	6,526	7,649	7,083	5,986	4,717	4,118
Carpet	2,869	3,238	3,295	2,929	2,450	2,622	1,490	2,677	2,503	2,358	2,258	2,137
Total	9,902	10,837	10,999	10,401	10,525	10,656	8,016	10,326	9,586	8,344	6,975	6,255
1954												
Apparel	4,652	4,916	4,894	5,476	5,851	5,570	5,271	5,926	4,881	4,962	4,685	4,520
Carpet	2,514	2,500	2,389	2,346	2,093	1,793	1,370	2,296	2,300	2,365	2,274	2,214
Total	7,166	7,416	7,283	7,822	7,944	7,363	6,641	8,222	7,181	7,327	6,959	6,734
1955												
Apparel	5,337	5,681	5,424	5,681	5,874	5,408	5,171	5,798				
Carpet	2,490	2,549	2,535	2,554	2,584	2,252	1,659	2,595				
Total	7,827	8,230	7,959	8,235	8,458	7,660	6,830	8,393				

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939. Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Rate of Apparel Wool Consumption Slightly Below A Year Earlier Since May

The rate of mill use was above a year earlier each month through May but was slightly below during the next three months (table 8). The rate during August, the latest month for which information is available, was about 2 percent below that of August 1954.

Domestic woolen and worsted mills used 188 million pounds, scoured basis, of apparel wool during the first 8 months of this year. The average weekly rate of consumption was about 4 percent above a year earlier.

Consumption on the worsted system, 91 million pounds, was down about 7 million pounds or 7 percent from 1954, but consumption on the woolen system, 97 million pounds, was up about 14 million pounds or 17 percent (table 9). The worsted system accounted for less than 48 percent of the total for the two systems, the smallest proportion of record back to 1918. The continued decline of activity on the worsted system is largely a reflection of a long-term shift in demand from worsted to woolen fabrics for some items.

Consumption of 60's and finer wools on the two systems increased from 96 to 101 million pounds, while consumption of coarser wools increased from 85 to 87 million pounds. Hence, fine wool accounted for a slightly larger portion of the total (table 10). Consumption of fine wool on the woolen system was up from 27 to 38 million pounds or over 40 percent, but that on the worsted system was down from 69 to 63 million pounds or 10 percent. Wools grading 60's and finer accounted for 39 percent of total consumption on the woolen system compared with only 32 percent in 1954. There was no significant change on the worsted system with the percentage at 70 for both years.

Mill Use of Carpet Wool Continues Above Last Year

United States mills used 82 million pounds, scoured basis, of carpet wool during January-August. This was 8 million pounds, or 11 percent more than was used during the same months of last year. The rate of consumption has been above a year earlier each month since January. During August, the latest month for which information is available, it was about 13 percent above a year earlier.

Woolen mills also used 37 million pounds of other fiber in the spinning of carpet yarns. This represented an increase of 10 million pounds or 38 percent over 1954. The use of man-made fiber increased from 16 to 25 million pounds or over 56 percent and accounted for 21 percent of all fiber used compared with 16 percent last year (table 11).

Table 9.- Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption on woolen and worsted systems, United States, January-August 1947-55

System	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Worsted	63.8	66.3	57.7	67.0	62.1	53.0	58.2	54.0	48.2
Woolen	36.2	33.7	42.3	33.0	37.9	47.0	41.8	46.0	51.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 10.- Percentage distribution of apparel wool consumption by grades, January-August 1947-55

Grade	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
60's and finer	61.1	63.4	54.0	56.9	58.7	52.2	50.3	52.9	53.6
50's and up to 60's	26.0	26.0	35.9	33.9	32.4	35.2	36.6	33.4	34.9
48's and coarser	12.9	10.6	10.1	9.2	8.9	12.6	13.1	13.7	11.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 11.- Percentage distribution of fibers consumed for spinning of carpet and rug yarns on the woolen and worsted systems, United States, by months, 1950-55

Fiber	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep													
1950	80.3	80.3	81.2	81.6	81.6	79.1	75.5	78.4	78.5	76.8	74.7	74.2	79.2
1951	73.9	71.4	72.5	63.0	54.6	52.0	38.7	56.2	57.4	65.5	64.5	69.8	64.5
1952	71.1	73.8	72.0	72.4	70.9	74.5	75.1	78.5	75.2	74.2	75.5	73.9	73.8
1953	73.6	73.4	73.4	74.9	73.0	74.0	74.7	77.7	75.8	74.3	75.5	75.3	74.6
1954	72.8	74.8	76.1	74.9	74.2	71.5	69.7	71.3	73.2	69.7	71.7	71.7	72.8
1955	67.2	67.8	67.4	68.8	72.8	68.8	69.5	70.6					
Other wool 1/													
1950	3.4	3.8	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.8	3.1	4.6	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.7	3.4
1951	2.5	2.8	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	2.8	2.1	2.4	2.0	3.7	3.0
1952	2.7	2.1	3.2	3.8	4.3	2.4	2.4	2.3	4.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	3.5
1953	4.0	5.5	5.0	5.3	4.3	6.6	4.8	4.9	4.7	5.8	5.2	5.7	5.1
1954	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.2	3.0	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.1
1955	1.5	1.6	1.7	2.0	1.9	2.1	2.3	1.3					
Reused and reprocessed wool 1/													
1950	10.8	9.2	9.7	9.4	9.2	10.1	11.5	8.7	9.8	9.7	10.2	8.7	9.7
1951	9.2	9.6	8.9	9.1	9.2	8.5	13.1	5.0	8.5	6.8	7.3	5.8	8.5
1952	6.8	5.9	4.7	4.8	5.9	8.4	10.4	6.2	5.9	5.6	4.4	4.6	5.9
1953	5.4	4.0	5.0	4.8	5.9	4.8	7.1	4.1	5.0	4.4	7.7	4.4	5.1
1954	7.4	7.5	8.3	6.8	7.4	9.1	7.9	8.9	9.1	7.7	7.7	8.1	8.0
1955	9.0	8.3	9.5	7.5	5.9	6.0	6.6	6.0					
Man-made fiber 2/													
1950	2.4	4.0	3.0	3.4	3.8	4.5	5.5	5.7	5.8	7.2	9.4	12.3	5.6
1951	11.7	13.8	13.4	22.0	29.4	31.9	37.1	31.4	27.7	21.5	22.3	17.5	20.8
1952	17.4	15.8	18.6	17.6	17.2	12.2	9.6	11.5	13.2	14.2	14.0	16.1	15.1
1953	15.3	16.0	15.6	14.0	15.7	13.7	12.7	11.9	13.4	14.5	10.7	13.5	14.1
1954	16.8	14.8	12.5	14.9	15.3	16.6	19.1	17.3	15.3	18.2	17.4	17.4	16.2
1955	21.6	21.5	20.6	20.7	18.4	22.0	19.4	20.6					
Other fiber 2/													
1950	3.1	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.3	2.5	4.4	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.1	2.1
1951	2.7	2.4	1.9	2.4	3.2	4.0	7.4	4.6	4.3	3.8	3.9	3.2	3.2
1952	2.0	2.4	1.5	1.4	1.7	2.5	2.5	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.7
1953	1.7	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	.9	.7	1.4	1.1	1.0	.9	1.1	1.1
1954	.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	.8	.6	.3	.8	.3	1.9	1.0	.8	.9
1955	.7	.8	.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	2.2	1.5					

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939.
2/ Prior to January 1953, synthetics other than rayon and acetate were included with "other fibers".

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 12.- Fiber consumed in worsted combing and in woolen spinning, scoured basis, United States, 1951-54

Classification	1951 (52 weeks)	1952 (52 weeks)	1953 (53 weeks)	1954 (52 weeks)
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
All fibers, total	789,414	752,228	755,545	612,454
Tops and noils combed	262,167	216,331	232,209	158,231
Tops	231,436	192,632	206,287	140,719
Wool of the sheep, (domestic and foreign duty-paid) 1/	198,351	166,088	182,337	122,907
Mohair	7,700	6,952	4,774	4,758
Rayon and acetate	7,748	5,868	5,610	3,718
Other synthetics	2/	2/	8,499	4,852
Other fibers	2/17,637	2/13,724	5,067	4,484
Noils	30,731	23,699	25,922	17,512
Wool of the sheep, (domestic and foreign duty-paid) 1/	26,697	20,792	23,384	15,630
Mohair	1,085	981	770	624
Rayon and acetate	550	390	467	335
Other synthetics	2/	2/	509	251
Other fibers	2/2,399	2/1,536	792	672
Fibers consumed in woolen spinning	527,247	535,897	523,336	454,223
For yarns (except carpet)	369,300	374,056	341,057	296,883
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep	157,097	159,905	152,321	127,754
Other wool 1/	89,070	98,170	78,866	78,181
Of sheep (tops, noils, etc.)	78,670	87,231	68,192	67,116
Other (mohair, alpaca, vicuna, etc.)	10,400	10,939	10,674	11,065
Reprocessed and reused wool 1/	70,419	63,255	62,090	47,055
Cotton	19,040	18,891	17,044	10,980
Rayon and acetate	22,094	19,242	19,727	20,285
Other synthetics	2/	2/	9,140	10,646
Other fibers	2/11,580	2/14,593	1,869	1,982
For carpet and rug yarns 3/	157,947	161,841	182,279	157,340
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep	102,012	119,566	135,935	114,501
Other wool 1/	4,718	4,041	4,074	3,376
Reprocessed and reused wool 1/	13,449	11,028	14,564	12,609
Man-made synthetic fibers	2/32,795	2/24,412	25,693	25,419
Other fibers	2/4,973	2/2,794	2,013	1,435

1/ As defined in the Wool Products Labeling Act of 1939. 2/ Prior to January 1953, synthetics other than rayon and acetate were included with "other fibers." 3/ Primarily consumed on the woolen system with a small amount consumed on the worsted system.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 13.- Woolen and worsted fabric production in the United States, January-June 1951-55 1/

Fabric	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	Percentage change 1955 from 1954
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	Percent
Woven fabric (except felt)	198,480	167,647	181,067	132,061	157,788	+ 19.5
Apparel	167,870	145,542	154,371	118,278	149,601	+ 26.5
Government orders	36,140	39,671	12,086	1,463	3,860	+163.8
Other than Government orders	131,730	105,871	142,285	116,815	145,741	+ 24.8
Men's and boys'	69,725	51,410	73,603	2/56,510	2/73,645	+ 30.3
Woolen	23,374	24,428	32,418	22,821	35,306	+ 54.7
Worsted	46,351	26,982	41,185	30,021	34,660	+ 15.5
Women's and children's	62,005	54,461	68,682	2/60,305	2/72,096	+ 19.6
Woolen	46,868	45,466	57,554	47,593	58,754	+ 23.5
Worsted	15,137	8,995	11,128	8,261	7,189	- 13.0
Non-apparel	30,610	22,105	26,696	13,783	8,187	- 40.6
Blanketing	13,311	12,172	14,929	7,801	5,786	- 25.8
Government orders	5,189	4,050	4,500	3/	485	---
Other than Government orders	8,122	8,122	10,429	3/	5,301	---
Other non-apparel	17,299	9,933	11,767	5,982	2,401	- 59.9
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Percent
Woven felt	6,654	4,133	4,892	5,161	5,534	+ 7.2

1/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent. Other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch widths or equivalent 54 inch width.
2/ Includes fabrics 20 oz. and over for which breakdown not available.
3/ Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Production of Woolen and Worsted Fabric Continues Above That of Last Year

About 158 million linear yards of woolen and worsted fabric (fabric principally wool, reused wool, or reprocessed wool by weight) were produced during the first half of this year (table 13). Production was above a year earlier during both quarters. The total for the two quarters was about 20 percent above the first half of 1954. The quantity produced during the second quarter was almost 14 percent above that of the first quarter. Last year, the increase from the first to the second quarter was about 11 percent.

The increase in the total reflected a gain of 26 percent in output of apparel fabric. Non-apparel fabric production was down about 41 percent. Output of men's and boys' apparel fabric was up 30 percent and of women's and children's was up 20 percent. The decline in output of non-apparel fabric reflected a decline of 26 percent in blanketing and a decline of 60 percent in other non-apparel.

Output of apparel fabric during the second quarter was up about 15 percent from the first quarter. Only about 2 percent more yards of men's and boys' wear fabric but about 25 percent more yards of women's and children's wear fabric were woven. The yardage of non-apparel fabric was down about 5 percent from the previous quarter.

About 7 percent more pounds of woven felt were produced during the first half of this year than early in 1954. Output during the second quarter was up about 3 percent from the first quarter.

Cuttings of Most Items of Men's Tailored Clothing Above Last Year

More regular-weight suits, separate dress and sport trousers, and overcoats and topcoats were cut during January-August than during the same months of last year (table 15). The increases ranged from 11 percent for trousers to 14 percent for overcoats and topcoats. Cuttings of summer suits were less than 1 percent below a year earlier.

Cuttings of trousers from fabric containing 50 percent or more wool were 33 percent larger than a year earlier while cuttings from other fabric were up 3 percent. Wool fabrics accounted for 34 percent of total cuttings this year compared with 29 percent last year (table 16). For summer suits, the other category for which information on fiber content is reported, cuttings from wool fabric declined a little more than did combined cuttings from other fabric. As a result wool fabric accounted for 35 percent this year compared with 36 percent of the total last year.

Table 14.- Woolen and worsted fabric production in the United States, 1952-54 1/

Fabric	1952 (52 weeks)	1953 (53 weeks)	1954 (52 weeks)	Percentage change in weekly average rate: 1954 from 1952	Percentage change in weekly average rate: 1954 from 1953
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	Percent	Percent
Woven fabric (except felt)	351,359	337,911	279,526	-20.4	-15.7
Apparel	307,951	290,652	255,358	-17.1	-10.5
Government orders	63,658	19,538	3,129	-95.1	-83.7
Other than Government orders	244,293	271,114	252,229	+ 3.3	- 5.2
Men's and boys'	108,734	130,624	2/118,591	+ 9.1	- 7.5
Woolen	50,196	57,494	50,844	+ 1.3	- 9.9
Worsted	58,538	73,130	67,034	+ 4.3	-14.9
Women's and children's	135,559	140,490	2/133,638	- 1.4	- 3.0
Woolen	115,317	117,310	107,954	- 6.4	- 6.2
Worsted	20,242	23,180	16,160	-20.2	-29.0
Non-apparel	43,408	47,259	24,168	-44.3	-47.9
Blanketing	24,334	28,690	13,304	-45.3	-52.7
Government orders	8,599	8,092	3/	---	---
Other than Government orders	15,735	20,598	3/	---	---
Other non-apparel	19,074	18,569	10,864	-43.0	-40.4
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent	Percent
Woven felt	8,481	10,091	9,866	+16.3	- .4

1/ Principally wool, reprocessed wool, or reused wool by weight. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent. Other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch widths or equivalent 54 inch width. 2/ Includes fabrics 20 oz. and over for which breakdown not available. 3/ Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 15.- Cuttings of specified items of men's tailored clothing, United States, January-August 1953-55

Type of garment	Number of garments cut			Percentage change in weekly average rate 1955 from	
	1953 (35 weeks)	1954 (34 weeks)	1955 (34 weeks)	1953	1954
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Percent
Suits, total	14,899	12,548	13,986	- 3.4	+11.5
Regular - weight	11,211	9,070	10,539	- 3.2	+16.2
50 percent or more wool	10,150	---	---	---	---
Other	1,061	---	---	---	---
Summer - weight	3,688	3,478	3,447	- 3.8	- .9
50 percent or more wool	1,096	1,244	1,195	+12.1	- 4.1
Man-made fibers	2,461	2,063	2,019	-15.5	- 2.2
Other	131	171	233	+81.6	+38.0
Separate dress and sport trousers	39,481	37,776	42,084	+ 9.7	+11.4
50 percent or more wool	11,092	10,848	14,400	+33.6	+32.8
Chiefly rayon and other synthetics	24,896)	26,928	27,684	+ .4	+ 2.8
Chiefly cotton	3,493)				
Overcoats and topcoats	3,912	2,809	3,193	-16.0	+13.7

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 16.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of men's tailored clothing by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-August 1951-55

Type of garment	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Suits					
Regular - weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	92.8	91.7	90.5	---	---
Other	7.2	8.3	9.5	---	---
Summer - weight	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	36.1	27.2	29.7	35.8	34.7
Man-made fibers	59.9	70.0	66.7	59.3	58.6
Other	4.0	2.8	3.6	4.9	6.7
Separate dress and sport trousers	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
50 percent or more wool	29.7	30.5	28.1	28.7	34.2
Chiefly rayon and other synthetics	64.5	63.6	63.1)	71.3	65.8
Chiefly cotton	5.8	5.9	8.8)		

Derived from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Cuttings of Most Women's Outerwear Garments Above Last Year

About 104 million unit-priced dresses, 56 million skirts, 11 million suits, 16 million coats, and 121 million blouses were produced during January-August (table 17). Cuttings of all categories except coats were above last year. The increases ranged from 3 percent for dresses to 15 percent for skirts. The decline in coat production was a little less than 2 percent.

Growers Approve Promotion Program

In a recent referendum, growers approved the agreement entered into by the Secretary of Agriculture with the American Sheep Producers Council, Inc., by a vote of 72 percent. The agreement as entered into last spring stipulated that it would not become effective unless approved by producers voting in a referendum who own at least two-thirds of the sheep and lambs owned by all producers voting in the referendum.

The agreement provides for advertising, promotion, and related market development activities for lamb and wool under Section 708 of the National Wool Act of 1954. The promotion activities are to be financed through deductions from payments under the wool incentive program. Deductions from 1955 program payments (which are to be made in the summer of 1956) will amount to 1 cent per pound for shorn wool and 5 cents per hundred pounds of live-weight for lambs and yearlings.

Some Wool Manufactures Among Articles Proposed for Consideration in Trade Agreement Negotiations

The Interdepartmental Committee on Trade Agreements recently issued formal notice of the intention of the United States Government to participate, under the authority of the Trade Agreements Act of 1934 as amended and extended, in multilateral and reciprocal tariff negotiations. Announcement of plans for participation in these negotiations was made in Department of State Press Release No. 468.

Among the products on which the offering of concessions by the United States in the negotiations may be considered are several wool manufactures. Included are yarn wholly or in chief value of wool included in paragraph 1107 in tariff schedules of Title I and Title II of the Tariff Act of 1930 as amended; knit underwear wholly or in chief value of wool included in paragraph 1114(c); items of outerwear included in paragraphs 1114(d) and 1115(a); bodies, hoods, forms, and shapes for hats, bonnets, etc., included in paragraph 1115(b); and floor coverings included in paragraphs 1116(a), 1116(b); 1117(a), 1117(c), and 1118.

Listing of an item is for the purpose of affording interested parties an opportunity to present their views on the possibility of a concession; it does not necessarily mean that a concession will be offered or made on the product.

Table 17.- Cuttings of specified items of women's, misses', and juniors' outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-August 1954-55

Type of garment	1954	1955	Percentage change 1955 from 1954
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
Dresses (unit-priced)	100,690	103,745	+ 3.0
Rayon and acetate	53,662	52,206	- 2.7
Other	47,028	51,539	+ 9.6
Skirts	48,924	56,124	+14.7
Rayon and acetate	15,984	14,448	- 9.6
Other	32,940	41,676	++26.5
Suits	9,422	10,638	+12.9
Rayon and acetate	4,359	4,543	+ 4.2
Other	5,063	6,095	+20.4
Coats	16,201	15,932	- 1.7
Blouses	111,756	121,356	+ 8.6
Cotton	74,568	83,532	+12.0
Other	37,188	37,824	+ 1.7

Compiled from Facts for Industry Series M67H, Bureau of the Census.

Table 18.- Percentage distribution of cuttings of women's, misses' and juniors' outerwear garments by fiber content and type of garment, United States, January-August 1954-55

Type of garment	1954	1955
	Percent	Percent
Dresses (unit-priced)	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	53.3	50.3
Other	46.7	49.7
Skirts	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	32.7	25.7
Other	67.3	74.3
Suits	100.0	100.0
Rayon and acetate	46.3	42.7
Other	53.7	57.3
Blouses	100.0	100.0
Cotton	66.7	68.8
Other	33.3	31.2

Derived from Facts for Industry Series M67H, Bureau of the Census.

THE MOHAIR SITUATION

Prospects are for a slight increase in mohair production next year. Slaughter of goats in Texas so far this year suggests a likely slight increase in goat numbers. Production of mohair this year is likely to be a little larger than the 13.7 million pounds, grease basis, or roughly 11.2 million pounds, clean, estimated for 1954. The number of goats in Texas, which accounts for roughly 95 percent of the mohair clip, was up 8 percent at the beginning of this year.

Stocks of mohair held by dealers and manufacturers at the end of the first quarter of this year totaled 6.8 million pounds, scoured basis, an increase of 1.6 million pounds, from a year earlier.

Imports of mohair last year came to only 88 thousand pounds, clean, only about two-fifths the quantity of 1953. Imports of mohair are usually small relative to domestic production and consumption. So far this year they have been below 1954.

In export statistics, mohair is included with other wool-like specialty hair. Exports of such hair last year, 2.5 million pounds, clean, were up sharply for the second year in succession. A sharp further increase has already taken place this year. The quantity for the first 7 months of the year was 3.3 million pounds, clean.

The only reported information on mill consumption currently available relates to top and noil production (defined as consumption on the worsted system), which accounted for from about 60 to 85 percent of the reported annual totals during 1946-52. Consumption on the worsted system during the first 7 months of the year was 12 percent below that of the same months of 1954.

The national average support price for mohair for the 1956 marketing year beginning April 1, 1956, will be 70 cents per pound, grease basis, to the producer. The announced price is the same as that in effect for the current marketing year. It is equivalent to approximately 92 percent of the August 15 mohair parity price. Support, if necessary, will be effected through payments based on the percentage needed to bring the average return per pound up to the national average support level. The method of computing the individual payment would be the same as that for shorn wool.

Present indications are that prices received by growers for the 1955 clip will average about the same as the 72.3 cents per pound, grease basis, estimated for 1953 and probably a little above the national average support level. Prices at local shipping points for this year's Texas spring clip are reported to have ranged between $0.615 and $0.825 for adult and between $1.015 and $1.365 for kid hair. Prices for the 1954 spring clip ranged between $0.65 and $0.80 for adult and between $1.00 and $1.115 for kid. Up to early October, prices for this year's fall clip had ranged between $0.715 and $0.865 for kid. Up to the same time last year, prices for 1954 fall hair had ranged between $0.65 and $0.675 for adult and between $1.00 and $1.025 for kid.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR MOHAIR

Item	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
				SUPPLIES AND CONSUMPTION					
Production (grease basis) 1/	18,225	15,972	12,959	13,245	12,888	12,116	12,572	13,673	
Reported stocks, April 1 (scoured basis) 2/	9,808	11,120	11,802	7,706	3,080	4,225	4,192	5,150	6,784
Imports for consumption (clean content) 3/	433	143	45	1,602	2,230	1,433	210	88	
Exports 4/									
Actual weight	101	83	144	113	41	---	---	---	
Clean content	---	---	---	---	---	24	875	2,536	
Mill consumption (scoured basis) 5/	14,681	9,478	15,149	17,188	6/	6/	6/	6/	
Worsted	11,888	8,050	9,993	12,824	8,785	7,933	5,544	5,382	
Woolen	2,793	1,428	5,156	4,364	6/	6/	6/	6/	
				PRICES					
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents 8/
Average price received by farmers (grease basis) 7/	53.6	45.4	46.3	76.0	118.0	96.2	88.6	72.3	
Boston market prices (grease basis, Texas sorted)									
40's	142.2	139.1	137.9	167.3	257.8	201.8	230.3	241.0	220-230
36's	128.7	111.3	108.0	150.4	242.0	186.5	213.5	226.0	195-205
32's	113.9	94.2	92.1	126.5	220.0	173.9	190.9	205.6	167-177
30's	91.2	77.4	76.5	111.4	202.2	156.7	165.2	152.5	115-125
26's	73.5	62.8	60.0	96.6	172.1	135.6	134.8	102.5	85- 95
22's	67.8	52.8	49.6	87.1	152.5	109.4	98.4	82.5	75- 85
18's	53.7	41.4	40.1	79.5	144.0	99.4	88.2	72.5	70- 80

1/ Production in 7 leading States (Arizona, California, Missouri, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, and Utah). 2/ Includes mohair held on consignment, foreign mohair held in bond, and mohair in process of manufacture up to the carding operation but excludes mohair held for the account of or by growers. 3/ Includes only mohair not advanced in any manner or by any process of manufacture beyond washed, scoured, or carbonized condition. 4/ Includes Angora, alpaca, and other wool-like specialty hair. 5/ Consumption of mohair, tops, noils, etc. for the spinning of yarn (except carpet) on the woolen and worsted systems. 6/ Not available. Reports show only combined figure for mohair, alpaca, vicuna, etc., on woolen system. 7/ Weighted average. 8/ Indications as of October 1.

Data on stocks, imports, exports, and consumption compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census; Boston market prices compiled from reports of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

The Cycle in Mill Use of Apparel Wool During the Postwar Period

by

Albert M. Hermie

Attempts to associate year-to-year changes in mill use of apparel wool with changes in disposable income and prices have not been very fruitful statistically. Since wool is a raw material which passes through many time-consuming processes, mill consumption probably reflects anticipated future rather than current consumer demand for wool products.

Changes in inventories of "consumed" wool in manufacturing and distribution channels are frequently cited as a likely major factor associated with the seemingly erratic fluctuations in annual consumption of wool at the mill level. This article incorporates the results of an analysis of monthly data for the postwar period to determine if mill consumption, after adjustment for seasonal changes, has exhibited a cyclical pattern. Such an analysis was undertaken in the belief that stocking and destocking operations on the part of manufacturers and distributors probably would tend to be cyclical in nature and be reflected in cycles in mill consumption. Identification of the cyclical pattern, if such exists, would help to explain the fluctuations in mill consumption and would be of considerable value in short-term appraisals of the outlook for the commodity.

An index, with 1947-49 as base, of seasonally adjusted average weekly rates of mill consumption, by months, was constructed. The results are as shown in Figure 1.

The average weekly rates of mill consumption reported by the Bureau of the Census and used in the above analysis include wool to be processed into military as well as civilian items. The quantities consumed during 1951 and 1952 for use in military items were substantial and accounted for sizable proportions of the totals for those years. Hence, it appeared desirable to analyze data relating to civilian use only. In the absence of reported data, rough approximations were computed on the basis of estimates of the Textile Economics Bureau of the annual quantities involved and Bureau of the Census data on quarterly production of woolen and worsted apparel fabric toward Government orders. The seasonally adjusted estimates, in terms of an index with 1947-49 as base, are shown in Figure 2.

The results of the analysis, Figure 3, suggest that the pattern of total consumption is a reflection of a fairly well-defined, regular cycle in the use of wool for civilian goods. The chart indicates four complete cycles during the postwar period, with mill use having entered the upward phase of the fifth around mid-1954. The individual cycles have varied in duration, which ranged from about 1.5 to about 3 years. They have also varied in amplitude, ranging from about 5 percent to about 50 percent of the 1947-49 average rate.

The amplitude of the rising phase of a cycle generally has been less than that of the declining phase of the previous cycle. This reflects the declining trend of mill use during the postwar period. 1/ The cyclical pattern, after adjustment for trend, is shown in Figure 4.

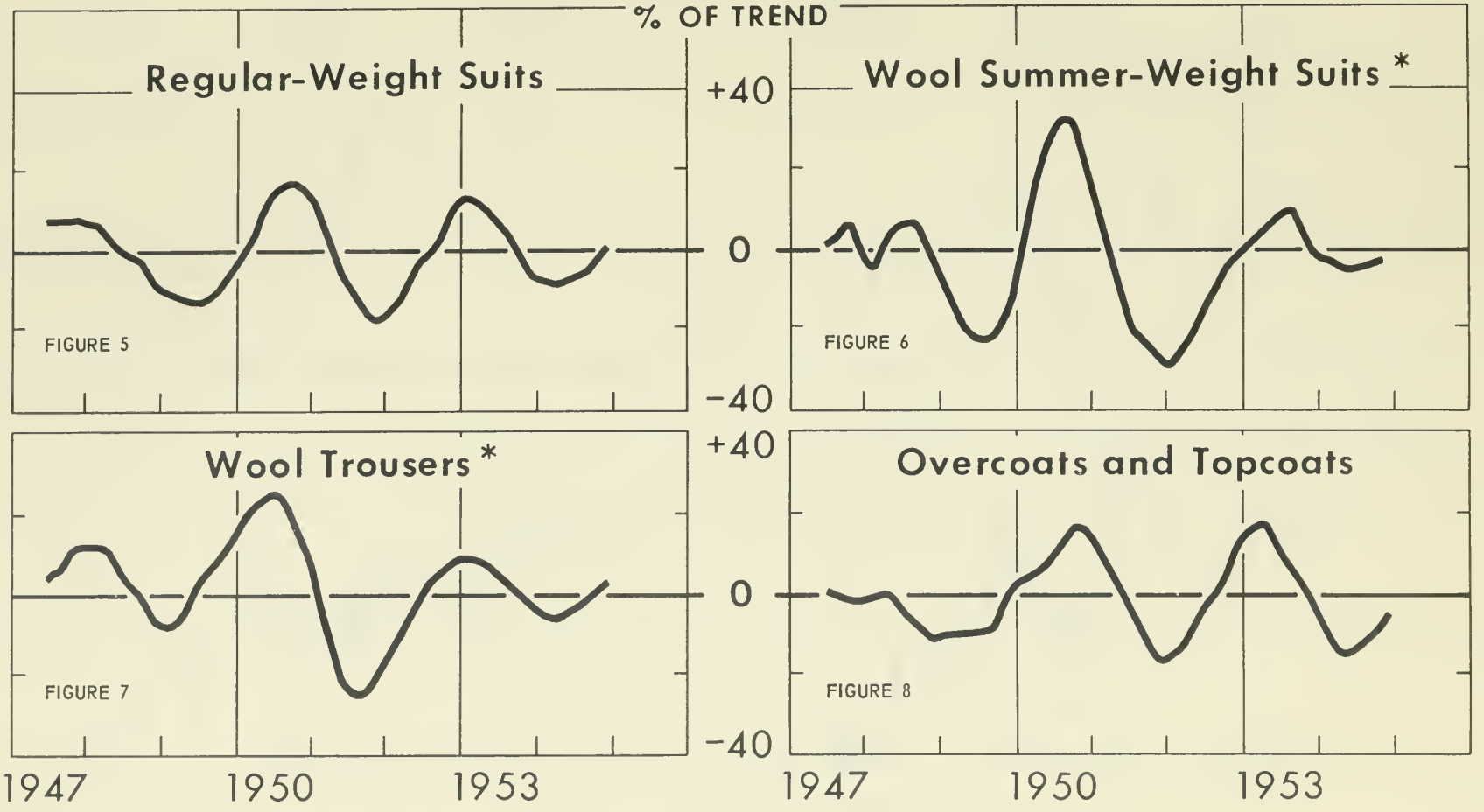
The cycle of greatest amplitude and longest in duration was that following Korea. Consumption was already in the upward phase of the cycle at the time of the outbreak of hostilities. War-scare buying undoubtedly tended to extend the upward phase.

Analyses relating to cuttings of regular-weight suits, wool summer-weight suits, wool separate dress and sport trousers, and overcoats and topcoats were made during this study. The results are shown in Figures 5 through 8. The cyclical patterns correspond rather closely with that of mill use of wool. However, in general the amplitude of the cycles tends to be somewhat less.

Similar analyses relating to other wool products and to other stages of manufacture and distribution and a comparison of cycles, if such exist, with those exhibited at the mill use level would be an integral part of any over-all study of cycles in the wool textile and apparel industries. Such a study should also include an analysis of the relation of prices to buying movements and inventories at the various stages of manufacture and distribution. The raw fiber equivalent of manufactures at each stage would be highly desirable, if not essential, for such a study. Prices of manufactures at each stage also would be required. Since wool enters into a wide range of apparel, household, and industrial items, such an undertaking would require considerable data. Lack of data has restricted further analysis along these lines.

1/ The factors associated with this downward trend were discussed by the author in "Mill Use of Apparel Wool in the United States Since World War II" in The Wool Situation, April 22, 1955.

MEN'S TAILORED CLOTHING CUT



DEVIATIONS FROM TREND OF AVERAGE WEEKLY RATES ADJUSTED FOR SEASONAL AND IRREGULAR MOVEMENTS
* 25% PERCENT OR MORE WOOL PRIOR TO 1951; 50% PERCENT OR MORE WOOL FOR 1951 AND THEREAFTER

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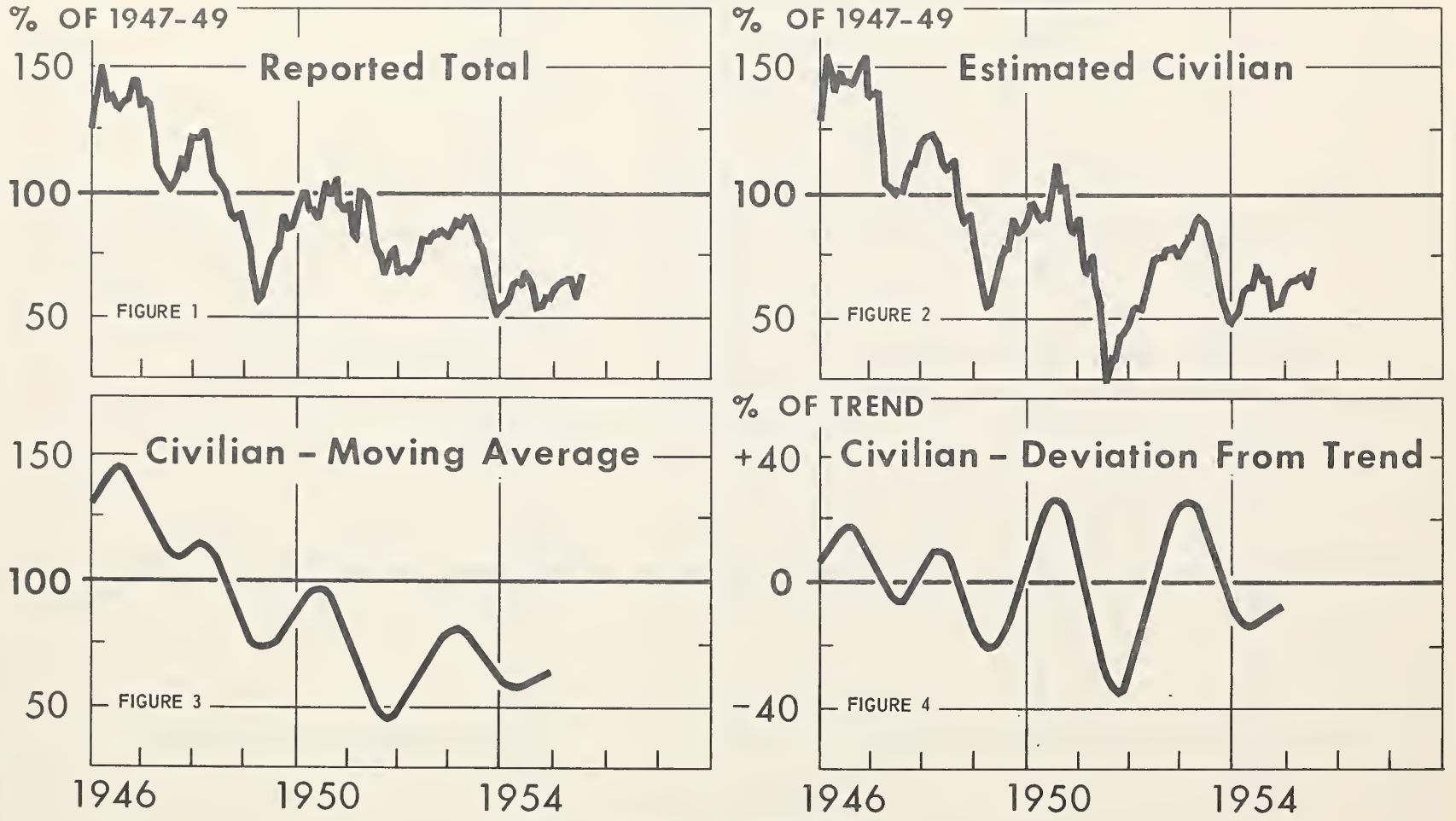

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